

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-9. (Cancelled).

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing plasma volume, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, thea gel composition comprising the following components and having a pH in the range of 3 to 4:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>Protein that does not</u> | |
| <u>coagulate at pH 3 to pH 4</u> | <u>3 - 8 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Calcium</u> | <u>0.1 - 0.5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Acids</u> | <u>0.5 - 3 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Carbohydrate</u> | <u>4 - 20 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Fat</u> | <u>0 - 5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Emulsifying agent</u> | <u>0 - 0.5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Agar</u> | <u>0.1 - 1 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Water</u> | <u>65 - 90 wt.%,</u> |

wherein said protein that does not coagulate at pH 3 to pH 4 is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a whey protein concentrate, a whey protein isolate, desalted whey, and a protein hydrolysate having a number average molecular weight of 500-10,000~~of claim 1.~~

AMENDMENT (Q76820)

U.S. Appln. No. 10/634,125

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing plasma volume, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, the a food containing a gel composition comprising the following components and having a pH in the range of 3 to 4:

Protein that does not

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>coagulate at pH 3 to pH 4</u> | <u>3 - 8 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Calcium</u> | <u>0.1 - 0.5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Acids</u> | <u>0.5 - 3 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Carbohydrate</u> | <u>4 - 20 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Fat</u> | <u>0 - 5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Emulsifying agent</u> | <u>0 - 0.5 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Agar</u> | <u>0.1 - 1 wt.%</u> |
| <u>Water</u> | <u>65 - 90 wt.%,</u> |

wherein said protein that does not coagulate at pH 3 to pH 4 is at least one member selected from the group consisting of a whey protein concentrate, a whey protein isolate, desalted whey, and a protein hydrolysate having a number average molecular weight of 500-10,000~~of claim 4.~~

Claim 12. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the method further increases plasma total protein content and plasma albumin content.

Claim 13. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the method further increases plasma total protein content and plasma albumin content.